ESTABLISHING SUCCESSFUL

Understanding The Four Basic Needs Of Every Ministry

J. Blest

Establishing Successful Christian Ministries

Understanding The Four Basic Needs Of Every Ministry

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Other Version Used Include;

Revised Standard Version (RSV)

OTHER WRITINGS BY J.BLEST

- Dear Pastor / Church Minister – Key Concepts In Ministry Operations

- Succession In Christian Ministry – Principles For Handing Over And Receiving Leadership

- How To Host Ministers Of The Gospel

- The Madness Of The Prophet (The Mindsets And Actions That Destroy Men Of God)

- Why This Poverty

- Biblical Healing

- How To Succeed In Your Assignment – Wisdom From The Book Of Nehemiah

- In Pursuit Of Destiny – Wisdom For Fulfilling Your Purpose In Life

- Biblical Principles For Obtaining Your Inheritance

- Wisdom For Restoration

- Surviving The Wilderness

- An Exemplary Governor

- A Road Map To Prison Reforms – Making The Most And Best Of Inmates

- How To Build An Intimate Relationship (Wisdom From The Book Of Songs Of Solomon)

- A Commentary On And For Wives

- The Virtuous Woman And The Strange Woman

- A Commentary On The Book Of Joshua (By Juliah Blest)

- J.Blest Commentary On The Book Of Hosea

- Establishing Successful Christian Ministries (Understanding The Four Basic Needs Of Every Ministry)

- The Spiritual Ear

- Wisdom For And In Transition

- The Writings Of J.Blest Volume 1

KEY SCRIPTURE

Ecclesiastes 10:10

If the ax is dull, And one does not sharpen the edge, Then he must use more strength; **But wisdom brings success**.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

To Jesus Christ, for saving me, calling me into the ministry and giving me insight into His word.

DEDICATION

To all those labouring in HIS VINEYARD.

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INTRODUCTION

The word ministry can be defined as anything done in the name of the Lord that adds value to other people or things. When the Lord calls a person to begin a ministry, there are four basic needs that ministry will require in order for the vision given to become a reality. The four basic needs are:

1) The anointing of the Holy Spirit and power

2) Favour with God and man

3) Effectual open doors and

4) Labourers.

The labourers that will be needed include Financiers, Intercessors, Thinkers/ counselors and Deacons.

THE ANOINTING

Acts 10:38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Every ministry requires the anointing of the Holy Spirit and power in order to do the work given. The reason why the

anointing is needed is because God's work is not done in human strength but by the Spirit of the Almighty God.

> Zechariah 4:6 Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

Every ministry needs to pray that God would continually anoint it to do God's work. The anointing of God is obtained by patiently waiting on God in prayer, bible study and by receiving impartations from those who are anointed of God.

The anointing of the Holy Spirit needs to rest on the whole ministry team or congregation. The anointing should not just be on the team leader. All need to ask God to anoint them. The anointing is available for the leader as well as for those who may be "down at his skirts" in the ministry/congregation.

> Psalms 133:2 It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments;

FAVOUR WITH GOD & MAN

Luke 2:52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

1 Samuel 2:26 And the child Samuel grew on, and was in favour both with the LORD, and also with men.

Every ministry requires favour with God and favour with man. The ministry needs favour with God so as to be able to tap his divine resource and it also needs favour with men so that it has a place to release that divine resource from God effectively. It is possible to have favour with God and not with man. It is also possible to have the favour of man

and not have the favour of God. Favour is needed in both areas for effective ministry to be released.

Paul the apostle requested the saints to pray that he would find acceptance/favour before the saints in Jerusalem whom he desired to minister to.

> Romans 15:30-31 Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me; That I may be delivered from them that do not believe in Judaea; and that my service which I have for Jerusalem may be accepted of the saints;

Every ministry should therefore pray that God would grant them favour with him and with men and that there would be an increase of that favour. When you receive favour with men, that favour has to be cultivated by walking in the Spirit and in the fruit of the spirit. He who walks in the fruit of the spirit i.e. manifesting love, joy, peace, a quiet mind, kind acts, well-doing, faith, gentle behaviour, control over desires will be excellent in public relations which is vital for

any ministry. Favour in ministry is destroyed by not allowing the fruit of the Spirit to develop in us.

EFFECTUAL OPEN DOORS

1 Corinthians 16:9 For **a great door and effectual** is opened unto me, and there are **many adversaries**.

Every ministry requires effectual open doors/ divine opportunities for it to be able to minister that which they have received from God. Without open doors a ministry remains with its resource to itself. On most occasions doors open for a ministry based on the level of anointing and favour it is operating under.

Prayer needs to be offered to God to open doors (grant opportunities) for the ministry to spread its wings and minister in different places. Every ministry should pray that it will receive many invitations to minister.

It also very important to note that after Apostle Paul mentioned effectual open door he mentioned many adversaries.

This means that God can open a door / doors but the minister / ministry needs to overcome the adversaries (plural) that the enemy raises to hinder and block the realization of that open door.

Note that it is Apostle Paul who stated that though he tried to visit some of the saints, he experienced great hindrances from Satan.

> 1 Thessalonians 2:18 Therefore we wanted to come to you--even I, Paul, time and again--**but Satan hindered us**.

Such hindrances can be overcome through much prayer, perseverance and focus.

LABOURERS

Every ministry will require the following four labourers;

1) FINANCIERS

Luke 8:1-3 And it came to pass afterward, that he went throughout every city and village, preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God: and the twelve were with him, And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary

called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils, And Joanna the wife of Chuza Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, which ministered unto him of their substance.

Jesus ministry would not have succeeded much without the many who become financial partners in his ministry. These people ministered to him of their substance.

Matthew 27:57 When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple:

Every ministry needs to believe that God would raise its members to be rich disciples and that the ministry would also be connected to other rich disciples. Financiers are raised by sharing the vision and mission of the church and asking people to support it. When God put it in the heart of Moses to have a tabernacle in the wilderness, he shared the vision with the people and invited them to give towards the project. The scripture says the people gave over and above what was required (Exodus chapters 25 and 35).

Financiers are also raised by sharing the gospel message of kingdom prosperity. Faith for prosperity comes from preaching and teaching the principles that govern wealth from the word of God. A ministry cannot expect to raise financiers without instructing them from the word of God concerning how to break away from poverty, how to access wealth, how to invest wisely, how to give to the work of the ministry, how to receive divine harvest from seeds sown.

The ministry should also pray that God would raise Cyruses (people who are not born again) to stand with the work of the ministry. God raised Cyrus a foreign king to fulfill his purposes in Jerusalem. This king helped fund the work in Jerusalem. This king was not a saint but God raised him up nevertheless.

> Isaiah 45:13 I have raised him (Cyrus) up in righteousness, and I will direct all his ways: <u>he shall build my city</u>, and he shall let go my captives, not for price nor reward, saith the LORD of hosts.
>
> Ezra 1:7-11 Also Cyrus the king brought forth the vessels of the house of the LORD, which

> Nebuchadnezzar had brought forth out of Jerusalem, and had put them in the house of his gods; Even those did Cyrus king of Persia bring forth by the hand of Mithredath the treasurer…thirty chargers of gold, a thousand chargers of silver, nine and twenty knives, Thirty basons of gold, silver basons of a second sort four hundred and ten, and other vessels a thousand. All the vessels of gold and of silver were five thousand and four hundred. All these did Sheshbazzar bring up with them of the captivity that were brought up from Babylon unto Jerusalem.

Remember the wealth of the wicked belongs to the righteous for the gospel course.

> Proverbs 13:22…and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just.

Maintaining financiers requires the ministry to practice financial integrity and be accountable to those who support it financially. Money that is given for certain projects should be used for exactly that. Monies should not be diverted to other projects if it is raised for a specific course.

2) INTERCESSORS

Exodus 17:10-13 So Joshua did as Moses had said to him, and fought with Amalek: and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed: and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses' hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. And Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

Intercessors help to lift and strengthen the hands and knees of the men and women of God and the work they are doing

so that the enemy will not prevail. Without intercessors the work of God and the servants of God suffer much damage. It is important for all saints to intercede for their leaders and for the work they are doing.

Most ministries have a group of intercessors who meet regularly to pray for the ministry and that is good. However, a ministry should strive to raise all who are connected to it to be effective intercessors and not leave the responsibility to a few saints. In a church set-up, all members can be raised as effective intercessors by having teachings on intercession and having a specific time for intercession in the main service. Leaders can also impart the grace to intercede on their members.

3) THINKERS/COUNSELORS

Proverbs 11:14 Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

Proverbs 15:22 Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.

Proverbs 24:6 For by wise counsel thou shalt make thy war: and in multitude of counsellors there is safety.

Every ministry requires counselors who offer godly counsel to its leaders. David was a wise king whose spiritual ears and eyes were opened to hear and see the Lord. Though he was these blessed, the Lord connected him with counselors

who spoke to him the very mind of God. One of these counselors was Ahithophel.

> 2 Samuel 16:23 And the counsel of Ahithophel, which he counselled in those days, was as if a man had enquired at the oracle of God: so was all the counsel of Ahithophel both with David and with Absalom.

What is the blessing of having godly counselors?

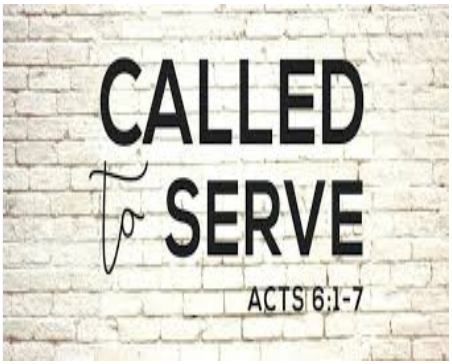
i) They offer stability- the people do not fall

ii) They offer safety

iii) They help any ministry connect with its God given appointments by fighting against things that cause disappointments of purposes.

Many ministries have been destroyed because leaders could not humble themselves to receive any counsel from those God had connected them to. Receiving counsel does not mean you are a fool, it simply means that God has purposed to use different people to contribute to the accomplishing of his work.

4) DEACONS



1 Timothy 3:10 And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless.

Acts 6:1-3 And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration. Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables. Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

The word deacon in Greek is 'diakonos' and it means to run on errands, an attendant, a waiter at table or in other menial duties, a servant. In my own words a deacon or deaconess is that person who offers himself physically to minister in the practical areas or "tables" the ministry may set-up in order to fulfill its vision.

The various practical areas a ministry may require deacons to offer menial duties include; Hospitality, hospital visitations, prison visitation, ushers, hall-set up, cleanup crew, security, public address crew etc.

The other meaning of deacon is a Christian teacher and pastor. In my view most deacons take care of the physical aspects of a ministry and not so much its spiritual well being. However it should be noted that God could allow many deacons to begin with menial work as he prepares them to receive more responsibility in spiritual issues of the ministry.

A good example of this is Philip who was chosen to serve tables in Acts 6: 1-5 and later become an evangelist as recorded in Acts 8:4-8 and Acts 21:8.

CONCLUSION

The Church of Jesus Christ is likened to a body. Every part of the body is vital and has a specific function which when well done contributes to the wholeness of the entire body. This is also true when you look at the four basic needs of any ministry. When all the areas of need are adequately supplied for, nothing can stop the minister and the ministry from becoming like a city on a hill which cannot be hid or like a candle on a candle stick which gives its light to all around (Matthew 5:14-15).

THE END

A CALL TO PARTNESHIP

No man can fulfill the calling of God over his life alone. It is for this reason why a man has to connect with others who can partner with him for the fulfillment of what he has seen in God. I have a call to preach and teach the gospel of Jesus Christ as I minister the healing power of the risen Christ. I cannot fulfill this call successfully on my own. I need you to partner with me in order for me to succeed in this God given mandate.

How can you partner with me? There are several ways in which you can be a partner with me. The following are some of them.

a) You can extend to me an invitation to come to your country, city, town and village to hold meetings to teach preach and heal.

b) You can stand in prayer for me, praying that God would anoint me, favour me, grant me open doors to minister and provide labourers (financiers, intercessors, counselors and deacons) for the work to which He has called me to do.

c) You can stand with me financially as I travel to the places God will send me to teach, preach and heal or

d) You can help finance the publishing and printing of the many books, (manuals, research materials, commentaries, tracts etc.) that I have written over the years. These materials will be a blessing to many and instruct them in the ways of the Lord.

e) You can also order the available resource materials in bulk and be a distributor in your region

To partner with me in any of the above ways, kindly contact me through the addresses on the copyright page.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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